



Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

— Making a positive difference through education and service —

December 17, 2004

FROM: Rusty Rosenkoetter, Director
Educator Certification

SUBJECT: Proposed Rule Changes

Thank you for your interest in proposed changes to Missouri certification. The State Board of Education met on December 16 and approved orders of rulemaking for a variety of topics under the heading of “educator certification” that were published in the November 1, 2004, *Missouri Register*.

During the 30-day comment period, the most concerns were raised concerning the Temporary Authorization Certificate for career education and the requirements (listed in the *Compendium*) for elementary, middle-, and secondary-school principals.

In a very brief summary, this is what the State Board approved – it will still need to go to the Secretary of State’s office for publication in the *Missouri Register* (likely in March 2005).

- Most of the rules as proposed with minor corrections/changes.
- Career education temporary authorization certificates will require 6 hours of course work toward the career education certificate of license to teach in the area of assignment based upon the requirements set forth in the compendium and is renewable with the completion of 6 hours each year (not to exceed 18 hours total).
- Elementary-, middle-, and high-school principals will need to complete four items in the first, four years of their Initial certification: 2 years of mentoring, successful PBPE, four years of experience, and professional development of 120 contact hours or 8 semester hours or a combination of contact/semester hours.
- During years 5-10, elementary-, middle-, and high-school principals will be required to complete an advanced degree in educational leadership, reading/literacy or curriculum/instruction.
- With two of the three: 10 years of experience; an educational specialist or higher degree (in educational leadership, reading/literacy or curriculum/instruction); or certification from a board-approved nationally recognized, professional administrator organization, the principal will be exempt from reporting professional development or semester hours to the Department.

In the near future, these finalized rules will be available on our web-site and on the Secretary of State’s web-site. If you have immediate concerns, please feel free to e-mail or call our office.